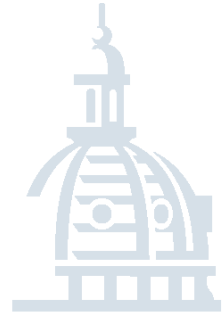


FISCAL UPDATE Article

Fiscal Services Division

November 23, 2016



FISCAL COMMITTEE MEETING NOVEMBER 2016

Meeting. The Legislative Fiscal Committee of the Legislative Council met in Room 301 of the Rod Library at the University of Northern Iowa (UNI) on November 14, 2016.

Welcome. Interim President Jim Wohlpart welcomed the Committee to the UNI campus. He stated that UNI has received national recognition for its work with students. The current freshman class is the largest since 2008, and the most diverse. The freshman retention rate from last year was 85.0%, and UNI's four- and five-year graduation rates are the highest ever recorded.

UNI Student Government Representatives. Representatives from the UNI student government addressed the Committee. Concerns expressed included major and minor areas of study being eliminated, staff vacancies, fewer opportunities for graduate students, increasing tuition costs, and the availability of mental health services.

Two-Year Tuition Plan. Board of Regents President Bruce Rastetter addressed the two-year tuition increase plan, which includes a 2.0% increase in state appropriations each year and a 2.0% increase in resident undergraduate tuition rates each year. The plan also includes differential tuition to ensure that more expensive majors, such as engineering, reflect a higher tuition rate.

Enrollment Trends. Jason Pontius, Director of Institutional Research for the Board of Regents, discussed enrollment trends, including:

- The number of Iowa High School graduates has been decreasing at a rate of around 1.0% per year.
- Iowa is a net importer of students. For every one student leaving the state for higher education, there are four students from other states coming into Iowa.
- China, India, and South Korea are the sources of the largest numbers of international students to the Regent's institutions.
- In the fall of 2016, there was a record enrollment of 81,899 students at the Regent's institutions.
- The majority of transfers to Regent's institutions are from Iowa's community colleges.

Transparent Inclusive Efficiency Review (TIER) Process. An update on the TIER Process and the accomplishments that have been made was given by representatives from each of the Regent's institutions.

American Institute of Business Campus. An update on the American Institute of Business (AIB) campus located in Des Moines was provided. The facilities are available to all three Regent's institutions in a shared campus approach. Some apartment buildings will be torn down, opening up a building lot. There are plans to open the dormitories for college interns coming into the Des Moines area. Currently, the four program areas being offered at the AIB facilities are Social Work, Political Science, Sports and Recreational Management, and Enterprise Leadership.

Infrastructure Projects. Representatives from each of the Regent's institutions presented details regarding infrastructure projects on those campuses. There is high demand for the bonds that the Regents issue, and they have strong credit ratings. The top priorities for the institutions are environmental issues, fire safety, and deferred maintenance.

Fiscal Updates. Legislative Services Agency staff provided updates on the most recent Revenue Estimating Conference, the General Fund Balance Sheet, Medicaid, and mental health programs.

Meeting Materials. The following link to the Legislative Fiscal Committee website includes the meeting materials: <https://www.legis.iowa.gov/committees/meetings/documents?committee=704&ga=ALLIowa>
[Legislature - Committee Documents](#)

STAFF CONTACTS: Alice Wisner (515)281-6764 Alice.Wisner@legis.iowa.gov
David Reynolds (515)281-6934 dave.reynolds@legis.iowa.gov